Docket No.: 50023-145

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Taro KATAYAMA, et al.

Confirmation Number: 1600

Application No.: 09/931,374

Group Art Unit: 2134

Filed: August 17, 2001

Examiner: Jonathan Adams

For: AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSOR, AUDIO PLAYER AND AUDIO DISTRIBUTION

SYSTEM

STATUS INQUIRY

Mail Stop Status Inquiry Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-identified application was filed on August 17, 2001. Since more than three and one-half years have elapsed since that date, and no action has been received by attorney for applicant, Applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned attorney be informed of the status of the referenced application. It is noted that the Official Gazette indicates applications filed on or before November 15, 2001 in the above-assigned group art unit should have received an action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Stephen A. Becker Registration No. 26,527

Please recognize our Customer No. 20277

as our correspondence address.

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 Phone: 202.756.8000 SAB:cms

Facsimile: 202.756.8087 Date: February 9, 2005